# PUDUKKOTTAI STATE
# WAR INFORMATION BUREAU

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LECTURE LXXXVII.

# VICHY.

## FRANCO-GERMAN RELATION.

The French are a great nation. There has never been anything in common between them and the Germans. History shows that while time and again the two nations had been at each other's throat, and the fortunes of war had shifted from side to side in its usual fickle manner neither Germany nor France had ever accepted defeat as final.

## 1940—THE FRENCH COLLAPSE.

In June 1940, fate ordained that Germany should overrun France to the utter surprise not only of the French but of the Germans themselves. The French had believed that their army was second to none in the world and that their Maginot Line could never be pierced. But when they found that the German *blitzkrieg* cut their army to pieces, overran their country and threatened to take Paris, they were simply stupefied. "Caesar remarks in the *Commentaries* that the Gauls fought with the greatest courage but could not face defeat. Once beaten, their armies broke up, scattered, disintegrated; in short, they ceased to exist as armies." The same became true of France in June 1940, **when, in the language of medical science, FRANCE lost consciousness.** The flower of her manhood, her soldiers numbering about 2,000,000, were taken prisoners by Germany; "the country was divided into two parts: one materially and intellectually the richer, the more

industrialised and active was occupied; the other and poorer part, flooded by some 10,000,000 refugees remained unoccupied." FRANCE quietly accepted her fate. This was the Armistice.

## "VICHY"

2. Marshal Pétain assumed the reins of Government over the unoccupied part, with his Government at VICHY and his first act was to substitute authoritarianism on the Nazi model for the time-honoured Republican ideal of 'Liberty, Equality and Fraternity', which was the glory of FRANCE. It seemed to be the only form of Government possible at the time; it suited GERMANY on the one hand and the French people themselves on the other. The Germans could negotiate with Pétain and force him, bit by bit, to concede whatever they required. As Hitler wrote in *Mein Kampf* **"a clever conquerer will always, if possible, impose his demands on the conquered by instalments."**

## PÉTAIN.

Promises of liberation to the French soldiers taken as prisoners were lavishly made by Hitler. Pétain was allowed to run his Government (almost as a neutral country) in what was called Unoccupied FRANCE. Pétain was offered the control of the French fleet and the remaining part of the French empire. The French people thought that the Germans would deal with them generously and honourably. In the then humiliating position into which they were thrown, they believed that their Marshal was the only man of the hour who could lead them to a final and honourable settlement. So the Pétain Government began to function from June 1940 assisted by ministers whose open antipathy to BRITAIN and proclaimed friendship for GERMANY were well known.

## GERMAN PRESSURE.

3. Things, however, did not remain stationary. **Slowly, but steadily, and with ever-increasing rigour, the German control over the French Government even in unoccupied FRANCE began to tighten.** The foreign policy of VICHY was no longer its own, but was controlled and directed by GERMANY. Pétain had no option but to have ministers like Laval, Darlan and others to advise him in his policy both at home and abroad. The colonial possessions of FRANCE in North AFRICA, West AFRICA and INDO-CHINA were of considerable and vital consequence to GERMANY. How VICHY would use these possessions has always been a material factor in the future course of GERMANY'S war with ENGLAND.

## GERMAN STRATEGY.

The sole ambition of GERMANY is to crush ENGLAND and disintegrate her Empire by attacking it on both sides of the SUEZ. This could be achieved by her only by playing upon JAPAN's ambitions and inducing her to attack BRITAIN's Far East possessions in the east and mobilising ITALY in the West. So GERMANY lost no time in organising an expedition against EGYPT, always the cockpit in the world's biggest wars. She induced ITALY to start an expedition against EGYPT. As the Italian possessions in North AFRICA are only a few miles away from EGYPT and as ITALY herself is quite close to these possessions, Hitler had no difficulty in prevailing upon his Italian ally who was now filled with dreams of *Mare Nostrum* and of an Empire to equal Cæsar's.

## ITS FRUSTRATION.

**Thanks to General Wavell's astuteness and power of organisation, the Italian expedition was rolled back and the Italians made to suffer enormously with the total loss of her existing possessions in AFRICA.**

## VICHY NORTH AFRICA.

GERMANY had, therefore, not only to back up the Italian expedition for a second attempt but to overrun ITALY and send a German, General Rommel, said to be the right-hand man of Hitler, to direct the expedition against EGYPT. This expedition is considered by Hitler to be of vital importance. He, therefore, decided that behind General Rommel there should stretch an area which will not only be a base of operations for him against EGYPT but also provide a convenient line of withdrawal and refuge, should Rommel be defeated and forced to retire, such a place being French North AFRICA, Hitler decided that he should put pressure upon VICHY to abandon her hold on her North and West African possessions. But General Weygand, one of FRANCE's true soldiers who was in charge of VICHY AFRICA stood in the way. As GERMANY could never depend upon him to carry out her object in AFRICA it became necessary to get rid of him. General Weygand was recalled on the 13th November 1941 and succeeded by General Juin who was much beholden to GERMANY having been recently released from the German prison camp. The Admiral of the French Navy was also changed and German infiltration into AFRICA commenced. A railway line connecting DAKAR on the west coast with ORAN in the north on the Mediterranean Sea is being pushed through to facilitate

the passage of men and material from one side of AFRICA to the other without having to run risks on the high seas or at the bottle neck at GIBRALTAR. Between the Atlantic and ALEXANDRIA are two bottle necks for the Axis one at GIBRALTAR and the other on the African coast adjoining SICILY. These two are very carefully guarded by the British Mediterranean fleet. It does not suit GERMANY to run the gauntlet of this fleet at either point. Hence the desire for GERMANY not only to neutralise AFRICA but to render it as far as possible pro-German controlled and commanded by German officers at every point. It is **needless to add that for these reasons while the hold of VICHY on AFRICA has steadily deteriorated that of GERMANY has proportionately increased.**

## FRENCH INDO-CHINA.

4. Yielding to the pressure of GERMANY, Pétain relaxed his hold on the French possession of INDO-CHINA. This has enabled JAPAN to overrun INDO-CHINA unopposed and infiltrate into THAILAND on the west and MALAYA in the south. Vichy's pusillanimity has suited GERMANY and JAPAN alike. It has enabled JAPAN to attempt to realise her Pan-Asiatic dreams and to strike at the British Far-Eastern possessions from the farther side, while GERMANY kept Britaln busy else where.

## MADAGASCAR.

The part VICHY should play in this arrangement is of immense consequence to GERMANY and JAPAN on the one hand and to ENGLAND and her allies on the other. For this reason MADAGASCAR is now very much in the news. Whether VICHY will be able to retain it or will only pretend to control it in order that she may eventually hand it over to JAPAN is a matter of vital concern not only to GERMANY but also to ENGLAND and to AMERICA.

## BRITISH VICTORY—THE SALVATION OF FRANCE.

**5. It must, however, be said that the French as a nation do still believe that ENGLAND will win and that through the victory of BRITAIN their own salvation will be achieved.** The Pétain Government are steadily losing hold upon the nation. The people may not be able to rise in revolt openly just now but they begin to feel that their once trusted Marshal is not dependable, either from inability or out of design. **VICHY, now very much in the eye of the United nations, is suspect.**

# WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

## 14—3—42 to 20—3—42.

**Burma**.—The lull in the present operations is a prelude to the next offensive directed against the rich Irrawaddy oil-fields 280 miles north of RANGOON. On the PROME Road the main enemy forces are still south of TAIK-GYI, 35 miles north of RANGOON, with their patrols creeping forward; while on the MANDALAY Road they have been contacted at MYAUNGLEIBIN, 85 miles to the north of RANGOON. Further operations lie in jungle tracts where the enemy will attempt infiltration tactics.

British troops have recaptured 3 villages north-east of RANGOON One of them is SHWE-GUIN—100 miles from RANGOON, in the capture of which an Indian Havildar has distinguished himself by bringing valuable information of the enemy's dispositions by disguising himself as a labourer mingled with an enemy labour gang.

Chinese forces in BURMA have contacted Siamese patrols at TONGTONG near the border.

R. A. F. has attacked Japanese troops and transports near TANKYAN, and HMAWBI on the MINGALADON—HMAWBI Road.

The situation at BASSEIN is obscure: perhaps it has fallen into enemy's hands.

**Australia**.—The comforting news from AUSTRALIA is the arrival of 'substantial forces' from AMERICA and the assumption of the Anzac command by MacArthur, the hero of the PHILIPPINES. The Japanese continue their attacks on MORESBY, THURSDAY ISLAND and DARWIN which the R. A. A. F. answers by counter-attacks on GASMATA, RABAUL, KOEPANG, DUTCH TIMOR and DILLI (Portuguese TIMOR). The Japanese are now believed to be in complete occupation of the whole of TIMOR.

U. S. submarines have sunk one enemy freighter and four other ships in Japanese waters in addition to a petrol tanker of 30,000 tons in the Philippine Seas. In a recent attack off NEW GUINEA by Australian and American land-based forces 23 enemy ships, including 8 warships have been either sunk or damaged.

JAPAN has raided TULAGI, capital of the SOLOMON ISLANDS and FLORIDA, one of the Islands in the Group.

In consequence of the severance of the A. B. D. A. front after the loss of JAVA the position of AUSTRALIA in the Eastern Group Supply Council has altered and Sir Bertram Stevens, Australia's representative on the Council, has been recalled. Though AUSTRALIA will not be able to meet external demands for supplies in future to any large extent, having her own local demands, she will continue however to co-operate with the Council and help INDIA and other countries as much as she can. This work has been entrusted to Mr. H. R. Gollan, Australian Government Trade Commissioner in INDIA.

Dr. Herbert Evatt, AUSTRALIA'S Minister for External Affairs is visiting U. S. to confer with the President.

The Pacific War Council may be shifted from LONDON to WASHINGTON, though not immediately.

Axis propaganda suggesting the possibility of a Japanese-Australian Armistice is ridiculed, with the contempt it deserves. The answer is Mr. Curtin's announcement :—' AUSTRALIA is stripped for war ready to trade punch for punch until the enemy rocks on his heels.'

**Netherlands East Indies.**—It is a mistake to suppose that the fight in these Islands has ceased. Axis propaganda that the Netherlands Government has signed an armistice is mere wishful thinking. Sporadic fighting continues in Central SUMATRA. Queen Wilhelmina has declared, ' Our brave Indonesian army is still fighting bravely wherever this is possible. Thanks to the mobility of the fleet it is possible to continue the fight from more distant bases. Some of our warships are still in action '.

**China.**—(1) A big battle is raging in the HONAN - SHANTUNG plain in the Yellow River valley for an all-out assault on the Chinese in the TAO-CHOW - TSAO - HSIEN sector.

(2) Supplies are already reaching CHINA by the new (' ASSAM ') Road, which, it is hoped, will soon carry even greater quantities than the BURMA Road.

(3) HONGKONG is in the grip of a terrible famine, which the Japanese have made no attempt to relieve. When reminded of their responsibilities to prisoners under the GENEVA Convention, they plead ignorance, and assume an indifferent attitude.

(4) The sad death is reported of Major-General Dennys, head of the British Military Mission to CHINA in a plane crash near KUNMING in CHINA.

**Miscellaneous**.—The Japanese occupation of WEH off the extreme north of SUMATRA, a U-boat attack on CASTRIES (*St. Lucia*) in the WINDWARD Islands (British) and the torpedoing of a Chilean tanker off the Atlantic coast form detached news in the Axis operations in the Pacific and the Atlantic.

**Russia**.—The fiercest fighting of the week occurred in the southern front from KHARKOV to TAGANROG on the Black Sea. A large scale offensive has been launched in the Donetz basin towards DNEPRO-PETROVSK. The pressure round STARAYA RUSSA is increasing and quite a large number of villages have been recovered in the SMOLENSK - VIASMA sector. The reoccupation of villages is proving a most difficult task. The Germans have converted every village into a fort, armed with anti-tank guns. The dwelling houses are used as pill-boxes.

British warships are successfully escorting convoys to Russian Arctic ports.

In a recent statement the Russian Government have expressed their pleasure at the full delivery of American supplies.

**Libya**.—The two sides are getting into position re-equipping, re-arming and erecting dumps. The Germans are established between DERNA and MECHILI. In front of them, with a broad belt of no man's land intervening, stretches the British line well based on EGYPT. The Germans have recently received more re-inforcements on land and in the air. The weather having improved ground and air patrols have become more active. This accounts for enemy air activity on March 13 in the forward areas and over TOBRUK. German columns which advanced on March 16 south of TMIMI have been driven back.

Free French Forces continue their offensive spirit and have newly taken UALOU EL KEBIR, an Italian out-post.

R. A. F. raids have taken place over MARIZA and CALATO in RHODES, over HERAKLION in CRETE and over PIRAEUS in GREECE, and on CATANIA, BENGHAZI and BARCE.

**Vichy**.—1. It has now become established that the whole of the French industry in both parts of FRANCE have been mobilised in the German interest. It is now revealed for the first time that GERMANY is also taking over land from those who are prisoners of war or are unable, for other reasons, to look after their farms. When these men come back they will be either landless or forced to work as labourers on their own farms.

2. VICHY has told U. S. that she would not *willingly* surrender her fleet or allow the occupation of MADAGASCAR. The expression being dubious U. S. has asked for further explanation.

There are now two French cruisers and some submarines at MADAGASCAR.

3. About 2,000 Britons between the ages of 18 and 50 residing in the coastal towns of French MOROCCO are to be interned in reprisal for the British bombing of cities in occupied FRANCE.

**Britain's sacrifices.**—No better proof of BRITAIN'S resolve to win, sacrificing her utmost, can be given than in the four following measures she has taken during the week, denying herself comforts and pleasures:—(1) the substitution of brown bread for white bread, (2) the abolition of motoring for pleasure, (3) the restrictions imposed on popular entertainments such as racing, wrestling, boxing, theatres, cinemas and foot-ball and (4) the 25 per cent. cut in civilian clothing rationing.

**Minister for Production.**—Captain Lyttleton has been appointed Minister for Production with more powers than any previous Production Minister. He will be to Production what Churchill is to Defence, and control, adjust and initiate Production policies.

**Naval.**—(1) Three German U-boats—U. 131, U. 434 and U. 574—which attacked a British convoy in South Atlantic have been sunk. U. 574 which sank the ex-American destroyer *Stanley* was herself sunk by *Stork*.

(2) Three E-boats were sunk in the North Sea by British Naval Forces.

**Belgian Congo** will make up for the products lost by the Allies in the FAR EAST and increase the production of tin, cobalt, gold and silver. M. Pierre Rychmans, Governor-General of the Colony declared, 'I should like the battle of tin to be won without the battle for gold being lost'.

**Holland.**—As a reprisal for bomb attacks on Dutch Nazis a 8 p. m. curfew has been imposed on AMSTERDAM and professors and burghers have been taken as hostages.

**Slovenia.**—Copying Hun methods in POLAND, the Italians ordered mass executions in LJUBLJANA—capital of SLOVENIA and arrested 400 students aud teachers for killing a Slovene leader. 12 of

them have been shot and 64 condemned to death; 41 more have been sentenced to long-terms of forced labour.

**Turkey.**—Planes of an unknown nationality have dropped 12 bombs in the MILAS district in TURKEY.

**India.**—(1) As a measure of safety, though there is no immediate danger, women, children and residents not employed in essential work have been advised to evacuate CEYLON. The island has also been placed under the control of Vice-Admiral Sir Geoffrey Layton—styled C.-in-C., CEYLON.

(2) The Head of the U. S. Mission to INDIA has been elevated to the rank of Minister.

(3) **The Madras Budget** for 1942—43 reveals a surplus of Rs. 15 crores due principally to income-tax on increased industrial activity created by war-orders. In view of any emergency that may arise out of the present military situation provision has been made for increased air-defence, publicity, propaganda and police, in addition to setting the surplus apart for A. R. P. distress-relief and other aid, should an attack eventuate.

**Hitlerian Oratory.**—There was nothing new in Hitler's speech delivered as a funeral oration for the fallen dead in the Memorial Service in ZEUGHAUS on Monday last; only it is more sombre and pessimistic than usual, betraying the guilty mind and the sinking heart. 'A monstrous tissue of lies' as Mr. Sumner Welles put it, 'it is not in its boasts and promises however that its significance lies but in the fact that there is implicit, in every word and phrase, Hitler's own recognition of his impending downfall and the inevitable conquest of the Germen armies.' He tremblingly referred to the Russian winter which, together with Napoleon's fate of 1812 he and his soldiers had survived. The 'Bolshevik Colossus' must be held 'at a remote distance in its definitive frontiers' he moaned and then, concluded indecisively, 'whatever claims fate may make on us, these years of fighting will, in spite of all, be shorter than the long and blessed peace which will result from the present struggle. Hitler shall have long peace—but only the peace of the grave of ST. HELENA, but it will not be blessed.

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# ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES.

| Date. / Targets. | Damage caused by air bombardment. | Aircraft losses for Allies. | Aircraft losses for Enemies. |
|---|---|---|---|
| **9—3—42 (Monday).** | | | |
| **GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).** | | | |
| **DAY:—** | | | |
| **The power and industrial plant** at MAZINGARBE (near BETHUNE). | | 3 day fighters. | 6 day fighters. |
| **NIGHT:—** | | | |
| **The KRUPPS works and other industrial objectives** at ESSEN. | A large number of fires started. | | |
| **Other objectives** in the RUHR. | | 3 bombers. | |
| **LIBYA. (By British planes).** | | | |
| **The enemy landing ground** at MARTUBA. | | | |
| **The harbour** at BENGHAZI. | | | |
| **MEDITERRANEAN. (By British planes).** | | | |
| **The island** of RHODES. | | | |
| **RUSSIA. (By Russian planes.)** | | | |
| **Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes** along the whole front. | | 11 planes. | 83 planes. |
| **FAR EAST—BURMA. (By American and British planes).** | | | |
| **MOULMEIN.** | Fires started. | | |
| **NEW GUINEA (By American and British planes.)** | | | |
| **Japanese transports and grounded aircraft** at SALAMAUA and LAYE. | | | |
| **The harbour** at HANISCH. | | | |
| **NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British planes).** | | | |
| **A Japanese flying boat** at GASMATA. | Set on fire. | | |
| **10—3—42 (Tuesday).** | | | |
| **GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).** | | | |
| **Military and industrial objectives** in the RUHR. | | 4 planes. | |
| **LIBYA. (By British planes).** | | | |
| **Offensive sweeps** in support of our land troops in LIBYA. | | | |
| **The harbour** at BENGHAZI. | | | |
| **RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).** | | | |
| **Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes** along the whole front. | | 5 planes. | 19 planes. |
| **FAR EAST—NEW GUINEA. (By American and British planes).** | | | |
| **The harbour and shipping** at SALAMAUA. | 2 Jap ships sunk and 4 ships set on fire. | | |
| **BURMA. (By American and British planes).** | | | |
| **Enemy transport** near PEGU. | | | |
| **11—3—42 (Wednesday).** | | | |
| **GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).** | | | |
| No details available about day and night bombing. | | | |
| **LIBYA. (By British planes).** | | | |
| **Shipping and harbour** at BENGHAZI. | | | |
| **Aerial combats** over the coast line. | Many more enemy planes damaged. | 1 plane. | 1 plane. |
| **RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).** | | | |
| **Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes** along the whole front. | | 4 planes. | 12 planes. |
| **FAR EAST—BURMA. (By American and British planes).** | | | |
| **Enemy positions** at MOULMEIN. | | | |
| **PACIFIC. (By American and British planes).** | | | |
| **Enemy sea planes** over MIDWAY Island. | | | 1 plane. |
| **NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British planes).** | | | |
| **The aerodrome** at GASMATA. | | | |

**12—3—42 (Thursday).**

**GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).**

**NIGHT:—**

**The Naval base and shipyards** at KIEL.

**Laying mines** in enemy waters. 8 planes.

**LIBYA. (By British planes).**

**The aerodrome** at EL ARANEB. 3 planes on the ground destroyed.

**The harbour** at TRIPOLI.

**GREECE. (By British planes).**

**Objectives** at PIRAEUS.

**CRETE. (By British planes).**

**An aerodrome** in southern CRETE. No loss.

**RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).**

**Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes** along the whole front. 7 planes. 24 planes.

**FAR EAST—NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British planes).**

**The aerodrome** at GASMATA. Big fires started.

**Reconnaissance** over NEW BRITAIN. 1 plane.

**NEW GUINEA. (By American and British planes).**

**Japanese held aerodromes** at SALAMAUA and LAE.

**Aerial fight** over NEW GUINEA. No loss. 5 planes.

**Reconnaissance** over NEW GUINEA.

**13—3—42 (Friday).**

**GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).**

**DAY:—**

**Railway yards** at HAZEBROUCK.

**Aerial duels** over Northern FRANCE. 5 planes. 8 planes.

**LIBYA. (By British planes).**

**Military objectives** at TRIPOLI and MECHILI.

**The harbour** at BENGHAZI.

**RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).**

**Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes** along the whole front. 11 planes. 23 planes.

**FAR EAST—NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British planes).**

**The aerodrome and supply dumps** at GASMATA.

**BURMA. (By American and British planes).**

**Enemy reinforcements** along the supply routes in lower BURMA.

**14—3—42 (Saturday).**

**GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).**

**DAY:—**

**Offensive sweeps** over the ENGLISH CHANNEL. No loss. 10 planes.

**LIBYA. (By British planes).**

**DAY:—**

**The aerodrome** at MARTUBA. 3 planes.

**NIGHT:—**

**Air duels** over LIBYA. 1 plane; several damaged.

**The harbour** at BENGHAZI.

**RHODES. (By British planes).**

**Objectives** at MARIZA and CALATO.

**CRETE. (By British planes).**

**HERAKLION.**

**RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).**

**Air combats and grounded aircraft** along the whole front. 9 planes. 20 planes.

**FAR EAST—NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British planes).**

**The aerodromes** at GASMATA and RABAUL.

**TIMOR (Portuguese). (By American and British planes).**

**Enemy occupied aerodrome** at DILLI.

**15—3—42 (Sunday).**

**GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).**

No information available about day and night bombing.

**LIBYA. (By British planes).**

**DAY:—**

**Offensive sweeps** throughout CYRENAICA.

**The aerodrome and grounded aircraft** at MARTUBA. 5 planes.

## ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES—*cont.*

| Date. | Targets. | Damage caused by air bombardment. | Aircraft losses for Allies. | Aircraft losses for Enemies. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **15—3—42** (Sunday)—cont. | | | | |
| **NIGHT:—** | **RUSSIA.** (By Russian planes). | | | |
| | **Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes** along the whole front. | | 6 planes. | 17 planes. |
| | **FAR EAST—NEW BRITAIN.** (By American and British planes). | | | |
| | **The Jap base at** RABAUL. | | 1 plane. | 3 planes. |
| | **The aerodrome at** GASMATA. | | | |

## ENEMY Air Raids over ALLIED Territories.

| Date. | Targets. | Damage caused by air bombardment. | Aircraft losses for Enemies | Aircraft losses for Allies |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **10—3—42** (Tuesday). | **BRITAIN.** (By German planes). | | | |
| | No information available. | | | |
| | **MEDITERRANEAN.** (By German planes). | | | |
| | **MALTA.** | | | 9 planes. |
| | **FAR EAST—BURMA.** (By Jap planes). | | | |
| | **Areas south of** THARRAWADY. | | | |
| | **NEW GUINEA.** (By Jap planes). | | | |
| | **Port** MORESBY. | | | |
| **11—3—42** (Wednesday). | **BRITAIN.** (By German planes). | | | |
| | No air activity at all. | | | |
| | **MEDITERRANEAN.** (By German planes). | | | |
| | **MALTA.** | | | |
| | **FAR EAST—NEW GUINEA.** (By Jap planes). | | | |
| | **Port** MORESBY. | | | |
| **12—3—42** (Thursday). | **BRITAIN.** (By German planes). | | | |
| **DAY:—** | **West coast** of ENGLAND. | | 1 bomber. | |
| | **MEDITERRANEAN.** (By German planes). | | | |
| | **MALTA.** | | | |

## ENEMY Air Raids over ALLIED Territories—*cont.*

| Date. | Targets. | Damage caused by air bombardment. | Aircraft losses for Enemies. | Aircraft losses for Allies. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **FAR EAST—BURMA.** (By Jap planes). | | | |
| | **A few districts in Central** BURMA. | | | |
| **13—3—42** (Saturday). | **BRITAIN.** (By German planes). | | | |
| | No information available. | | | |
| | **MEDITERRANEAN.** (By German planes). | | | |
| | **MALTA.** | | 2 planes. | |
| | **FAR EAST—NEW GUINEA.** (By Jap planes). | | | |
| | **Port** MORESBY. | | | |
| | **PACIFIC.** (By Jap planes). | | | |
| | **A point in** YOULE Island. | | | |
| **14—3—42** (Saturday). | **BRITAIN.** (By German planes). | | | |
| **NIGHT:—** | **Two points on the South-west, East of** ENGLAND. | No damage or casualties. | | |
| | **MEDITERRANEAN.** (By German planes). | | | |
| | **MALTA.** | | 3 planes. | |
| | **FAR·EAST—NEW GUINEA.** (By Jap planes). | | | |
| | **Port** MORESBY. | | | |
| | **PACIFIC.** (By Jap planes). | | | |
| | **Thursday** Island. | | | |
| **15—3—42** (Sunday). | **BRITAIN.** (By German planes). | | | |
| | No information available. | | | |
| | **MEDITERRANEAN.** (By German planes). | | | |
| | **MALTA.** | | | |
| | **FAR EAST—NEW GUINEA.** (By Jap planes) | | | |
| | Post MORESBY. | | | |
| **16—3—42** (Monday). | **BRITAIN.** (By German planes). | | | |
| | **South coast** of ENGLAND. | | | |
| | **MEDITERRANEAN.** (By German planes). | | | |
| | **MALTA.** | | | |
| | **FAR EAST.** (By Jap planes). | | | |
| | **Port DARWIN.** | | | |

# SIDE LIGHTS.

**'SURVIVED.'** The whirligig of time brings on its revenges. On Monday, at BERLIN, shedding crocodile tears in memory of those whom he had sacrified at the altar of Moloch Hitler is stated to have confessed that 'in the superhuman struggle staking the utmost strength of soul and body' he, and his legions had just SURVIVED **Napoleon's Fate of 1812.** What a contrast to the earlier bombasts that he would close the war in 1941. In 1942 he must fight, 'soul and body,' for survival! It would also appear that the Spring Offensive is to be postponed for summer! What can be the cause of Hitler's despair? Never had he spoken, so depressedly, so despairingly.

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**THE TWO REASONS.** Hitler himself has given two reasons. The 'Bolshevik colossus', 'disturbing the blessed peace of EUROPE' he said, had sent *wave after wave of fresh troops and armaments*, which even Hitlerian omniscience did not foresee. 'Only to-day', he exclaimed, 'we realise the full extent of the preparations of our enemies.'

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**WINTER.** The second factor was 'surprise,'—the early advent of winter which Hitlerian experience and Germon science could not forecast. If so, it was a just retribution. By 'surprise' Hitler attacked RUSSIA in summer, and by surprise Russian winter had taken its revenge. When the Armada came to ENGLAND, it was said that 'God blew with His winds and the enemy was scattered.' It may be said of Hitler now that God sent His snow and the German hosts were paralysed.

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**THE DEEPER CAUSES.** Surprise and the superhuman element apart, Hitler's present discomfiture is due to deeper causes—to his initial blunder—amounting to strategic crime, in rejecting the counsel that Brauchitsch in his experience gave him, to fall back on prepared defensive lines before winter came. Hitler, on the other hand advised by Keitel advanced on MOSCOW, hoping to take it, by *blitz* methods *before* the advent of winter. Huge forces were sacrificed. Winter arriving, his forces, battered and exhausted by weeks of effort, depressed in morale and ill-equipped, retired at last but too late to ill-prepared positions. This was the cause of Hitler's tragedy—a defeat no less than Napoleon's in 1812, if not in regard to the length of the retreating line, at least in the military consequences.

**SITUATION CRITICAL.** Though Hitler thanks his gods for his survival he is ill at ease in his heart of hearts his nightmare being always 'the Bolshevik colossus' 'that must be held at a remote distance in its definitive frontiers' as it would otherwise disturb 'the blessed peace of EUROPE' which in plain words, means eventually the overrunning of GERMANY itself.

The pursuer is in danger of pursuit. This is the significance of the Russian counter-offensive of the last two months and a half. How?

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**THREE STAGES.** The Russian counter-stroke has been and is being delivered in three stages, first to relieve the pressure on vital centres, second, to prevent the stabilisation of the German winter line and third, to destroy the German 'rivets'. In the first stage, LENINGRAD was relieved by the retaking of TIKHVIN; MOSCOW, by the recapture of KALININ, MOJAISK and KALUGA and ROSTOV by Timoshenko's now famous drive towards the sea of Azoy. During the second stage the enemy's attempts at digging himself in along a stabilised winter line were constantly frustrated by incessant attacks by fresh troops, rendered greatly mobile over snow and ice by employing cavalry instead of heavy machinery. In these drives the German lines were battered, flattened out and forced back.

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**VITAL RIVETS.** The third stage—the most critical of all has just been reached and is in progress. The struggle now centres round a knot of Railway Junctions—'Vital Rivets'—SCHLUSSELBURG, NOVOGROD, STARAYA RUSSA, RZHEV, VYASMA, SMOLENSK, BRIANSK, OREL, KURSK, KHARKOV and TAGANROG—to which all German lateral communications are linked—and which Hitler has commanded his armies to hold at all costs. These places, strengthened by elaborate fortifications and garrisoned by German reserves are the targets of the present Russian attack. Should they be pierced Hitler's flight would follow.

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**THE PRESENT POSITION.** The German hold over these places has by no means weakened yet: GERMANY'S encircling arms still embrace LENINGRAD: German wedges still hold apart the Russian pincers at SMOLENSK though in imminent danger of destruction; and German formations still offer resistance at DNEPROPETROVSK on the Dnieper, at the sea of Azov and round SEBASTOPOL. Hitler's forces are still *surviving*.

But will they *revive*, that is, regain life and strength in spring or summer?

The German position is grave and that is the reason for Hitler's anxiety and his prayers, for divine intercession :—

1. The German 'rivets' have been encircled and isolated, as at STARAYA RUSSA.

2. German armies are being annihilated at an appalling rate—80,000 for instance at STARAYA RUSSA again.

3. German armaments are also being destroyed in the same way—'200 planes, in 2 days'.

4. The German reserves are being used up at a 'tremendous rate'.

5. German legions, made up of foreign levies are 'a miscellaneous rabble'.

6. German arms manufactured by 'slave labour' are unreliable.

7. Sabotage stabs Hitler in the back.

8. Occupied countries are rising and a good part of the German armies have been told off to keep them down.

9. The R. A. F. is destroying German War Production ; and

10. RUSSIA is sending 'wave after wave' of 'fresh troops', which are apparently inexhaustible.

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**THE BATTLE OF THE MIDDLE EAST.** If prognostications come true, the next German attack should fall on the CAUCASUS in an effort to link up with JAPAN somewhere in the MIDDLE EAST. If so, the Battle of the MIDDLE EAST has in a sense begun already and is being fought out at STARAYA RUSSA, SMOLENSK and the Donetz. If the Nazi hordes could be held and battered here for another month, till the onset of spring, the Battle of the MIDDLE EAST would have been half-won. RUSSIA, as it turns out, has now become the bastion of the Suez Region—the life-line of the Empire.

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**RECIPROCALLY.** As Captain Oliver Lyttleton has shown, Auchinleck's offensive in LIBYA among other things, has diverted an entire *Luftwaffe* division of about 1,700 planes, 20,000 lorries of ammunition, 20,000 mechanical vehicles, and a number of Panzer divisions from the Russian front, facilitating a Red counter-offensive in winter.

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**THE NET RESULT.** Whatever the mutual help, resulting from the Anglo-Russian collaboration, the net effect on the enemy is clear. In the words of M. Litvinov 'only think what

would have been the power of GERMANY, if Hitler had maintained intact the armaments with which he began attacking the Soviet union *plus* nine months of the output of the factories in GERMANY, FRANCE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA and AUSTRIA as well as other occupied countries.'

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**THE LYING PROPHET.** As it is, the moral as well as the physical force of GERMANY has been broken and even the docile German people can see that 'their invincible Fuehrer was not always to lead them forward but had sometimes *to follow them in their retreat*' and that the promises of their 'divine Fuehrer' to capture MOSCOW immediately and bring the Eastern European campaign to an early end was 'a cheap, lying prophecy'.

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**CALM BEFORE STORM.** The paucity of the week's news indicates the calm before another inpending storm. Both sides are preparing, recuperating and manoeuvring for the next grapple. As we pointed out last week it is a matter of pure speculation where JAPAN will strike next or will be struck. Her present uneasy position, with the VLADIVOSTOK pistol pointed at her heart, with CHINA on its flank, with INDIA under Wavell, and AUSTRALIA under MacArthur arming at the extremities and with the American navy 'somewhere in the Pacific', cannot be too comfortable. Attack INDIA or AUSTRALIA she must, in defence, let alone dreams of world conquest, and also, sooner or later, sooner as portents promise, the United Nations will open their offensive from INDIA and AUSTRALIA to send JAPAN back howling to her paper homes.

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**RUSSO-JAPANESE RELATIONS.** The rumours concerning a possible Japanese attack on RUSSIA's rear cannot however be dismissed as idle speculation. The replacement of Tatekawa by Sato, as Japanese Ambassador at MOSCOW, and the recall of Minami from KOREA and of Chang Ching Hai from MANCHUKUO, combined with the construction of new aerodromes in MANCHUKUO and the renewal of operations in south-west SHANTUNG cannot be accidental coincidences. The recall of Tatekawa who signed the recent Russo-Japanese Non-Aggression Pact betokens a change of Japanese policy towards RUSSIA. Sato may prove a second Kuruso.

Russian preparations in the FAR EAST point to the same conclusion. She has strengthened her defences at VLADIVOSTOK and NIKOLAYEVSK and increased her Siberian armies to three millions against one million of the Japanese. She is also constructing two new parallel lines behind the existing Trans-Siberian Railways, besides new aerodromes connecting KAMCHATKA with ALASKA through the ALEUTIAN ISLANDS.

Hitler's attempts to induce JAPAN to attack RUSSIA in ASIA to relieve the pressure overwhelming him in EUROPE are also well-known. But JAPAN, with all her unfinished jobs on her hands both to her south and east may well hesitate. Moreover JAPAN wants to see GERMANY succeed only to the extent of weakening BRITAIN and AMERICA but not completely, and also, only till she has had time to chew what she has already bitten. She would neither avert a complete German defeat nor help a complete German victory. Hitler does not like the Japanese either; he made no reference to their successes in his recent speech. There is also a strong party in GERMANY preferring CHINA to JAPAN.

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**AUSTRALIA.** On the other hand it is safe to assume that JAPAN's immediate designs are directed southward, being intended to prevent AUSTRALIA from being used as an Allied base. The occupation of TIMOR, the landings on NEW GUINEA, and the raids on DARWIN, WYNDHAM, BROOME and THURSDAY ISLAND point to this conclusion.

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**PEACE MOVE BUT NO SECOND MUNICH.** Another alternative is a peace move from JAPAN in the manner of Hitler's peace offensives in the first two years of the War—just to gain time to consolidate her recent gains and to gather strength for the next offensive. She may make CHINA a 'generous' offer of partial freedom and concealed slavery, while asking BRITAIN and AMERICA to cut their losses in the east in order to concentrate on GERMANY in the west. But the Allies are too astute to be deceived into perpetrating another suicidal 'MUNICH'. It would be the betrayal of CHINA and the creation of an eastern CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

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**CHINA AND KODO.** For, JAPAN would never do justice to CHINA. She would never evacuate MANCHUKUO, nor recognise CHUNGKING or even withdraw from INDO-CHINA, as President Roosevelt suggested in November last, during the 'Peace' talks to test Japanese sincerity. The Tanaka Memorial has made the position clear. 'The control of CHINA is a necessary step to the control of all ASIA'. 'Co-prosperity' and 'Kodo' are opposed to it.

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**THE 'HIMALAYA RADIO'.** The 'Indian Freedom Station', or 'Himalaya Radio', but neither 'Indian' nor 'Himalayan', but only Goebellsian in origin and Italian in execution, which had

been distinguishing itself for sometime in diatribes against INDIA and Indians was recently exposed to be a fake radio located in ROME. When the 'Himalaya' altered its wave-length, the ROME Radio—that 'Mirror of Truth', alone and immediately announced the change to the World.

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**THE 'AZAD HIND'** Now another radio nest called the 'Azad Hind', also supposed to be of Indian origin, has been discovered to have its location in BERLIN. On March 1 the BERLIN Radio broadcast in Hindustani, 'Yesterday at 5 p.m. (BERLIN time) we happened to listen to Mr. Subash Chandra Bose speaking from an unidentified radio', of which, however, it gratuitously announced the wave-length. TOKYO however gave the secret away by reporting a *Domei* interview with Bose in BERLIN (February 23) and referring to 'Bose's message to the Indians from some European Station'.

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**AXIS BILLINGSGATE.** Here is a choice collection of Axis billingsgate:

1. 'Gandhi himself is the greatest criminal' (Italian Broadcast—January 6, 1942).

2. 'Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has proved a complete failure. He has been unmasked as an agent of the Anglo-American plutocratic Bolshevism' (German Broadcast—February 25, 1942).

3. 'Indian traitors like Sikander Hayat Khan' (Rome—April 24, 1941).

4. 'Worthless men like Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru' (January 5, 1942).

5. 'Traitors like M. N. Roy and Indian Princes' (March 6, 1942).

6. 'May God's curse fall on the Maharajah of PATIALA and his family' (January 6, 1942).

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**GENDAI INDORON.** The Department of Education in JAPAN has officially recommended a book entitled 'Gendai Indoron' ('Contemporary India') written by Takhashi Itoh and published last summer as a guide to the attitude that the Japanese should adopt in their approach to the Indians. It is a revealing document. In the treatise Indians are mercifully included in the huge mass called 'humanity' which awaits to be 'liberated' by JAPAN in order to be admitted to everlasting peace in the Asiatic 'New Order'; they will be 'protected'.

**'SOFT SOAP'** Mr. Itoh has also something interesting to say on the methods to be employed to win Indian sympathy and co-operation—the way of 'Soft Soap' in preference to 'Sharp Steel.' Japanese actions will be such that Indians will come 'spontaneously to admire JAPAN'. Co-prosperity to the entire human race, including the people of INDIA (Note the generous concession) will be promised. Referring to INDIA Mr. Itoh adds, 'even *a worm* will turn' (a compliment), and feelingly observes, 'however *backward* a people may be (another compliment) they are bound to feel indignant if we behave as if we were commanding them; therefore JAPAN should demonstrate her 'friendship' for INDIA (no doubt, as in the case of CHINA, by bombing, bayonetting, and such other civilised methods).

It is now nearly 400 years ago that Count Okuma let the cat of Japanese ambition out of the bag, when he declared that '300,000,000 people of India were patiently waiting for JAPAN to liberate them'. Even earlier, in 1591, Hideo Yoshi had defined JAPAN's 'divine mission' of bringing INDIA under the sway of 'Our Sage Emperor.' Now Itoh prescribes 'Soft Soap' methods to win her over.

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**INDIA'S REPLY** is best given in the words of the Viceroy.

"The indomitable Prime Minister of GREAT BRITAIN has asked: 'What sort of people do our enemies think we are?' Our enemies shall learn, if they have not learnt already to their cost, what kind of men this land of INDIA breeds. INDIA has vast material resources. She has mighty allies. She has a great soldier for her Commander-in-Chief. She has the loyalty and bravery of her sons who are heirs to a superb tradition."

## THE NANKING "MURDER RACE"

"On December 7th 1937, the *Japan Advertiser*, an American-owned and edited English-language daily paper in Tokyo, published the following item showing the Japanese attitude to soldiers who have ceased fighting.

**SUB-LIEUTENANTS IN RACE TO FELL 100 CHINESE RUNNING CLOSE CONTEST.**

Sub-Lieutenant Toshiaki Mukai and Sub-Lieutenant Teakeshi Noda, both of the Katagiri unit at Kuyung, in a friendly contest to see which of them will first fell 100 Chinese in individual sword combat before the Japanese forces completely occupy Nanking, are well in the final phase of their race, running almost neck to neck. On Sunday when their unit was fighting outside Kuyung, the "score", according to the *Asahi*, was: Sub-Lieutenant Mukai, 89 and Sub-Lieutenant Noda, 78.

On December 14th 1937, the same paper published the following additional report :—

**CONTEST TO KILL FIRST 100 CHINESE WITH SWORD EXTENDED WHEN BOTH FIGHTERS EXCEED MARK.**

The winner of the competition between Sub-Lieutenant Toshiaki Mukai and Sub-Lieutenant Noda to see who would be the first to kill 100 Chinese with his Yamato sword has not been decided, the *Nichi Nichi* reports from the slopes of Purple Mountain, outside Nanking. Mukai has a score of 106 and his rival has despatched 105 men, but the two contestants have found it imopossible to determine who passed the 100 mark first. Instead of settling it with a discussion, they are going to extend the goal by 50.

(Mukai's blade was slightly damaged in the competition. He explained that this was the result of cutting a Chinese in half, helmet and all. The contest was "fun", he declared, and he thought it a good thing that both men had gone over the 100 mark without knowing that the other had done so.)"

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# RUSSIAN HATRED OF GERMANS.
# INSPIRATION FOR CONTINUED FIGHT.
# GERMAN CRUELTIES IN RUSSIA.

by

*Negley Farson, the American journalist, in the **Daily Mail**.*

The reasons for the ferocity and determination with which officers and soldiers of the Russian Army are battering the Germans across White Russia can be found in the recently liberated towns and villages. I spent yesterday (February 17) on the snowclad plain of what was once the prosperous farming district of Lotoshino, 100 miles north-west of Moscow. Here I saw gallows with ropes still dangling from it, on which the Nazis had hung eight civilians, one being Tatiana Peskovatzkaya, the 26-year-old woman health administrator of the Lotoshino district. I talked with a brave but weeping 15-year-old boy who had been made prisoner by the Germans, was beaten, and saw his mother and sister led off to be shot. I listened to a half-demented father who saw many of his family killed and whose 18-month-old baby was frozen to death as he carried it in his arms. I talked with bitter-faced "partisans" who for two months had waged guerilla warfare against the Germans from hideouts in the depths of forest and swamp. If ever I have seen horror, this was it. I and two other correspondents who talked with these stricken and still fighting people are completely satisfied that the Russians are not exaggerating

As they themselves state, "These things are true. We know that because we have both suffered and seen it. But thousands of our people are still unaccounted for—and we are afraid of what we shall find".

## "THE AWFUL AREA".

The great plains around Lotoshino are now beginning to be spoken of by the Russians as the "awful area". It was the last part of territory known as the "Moscow region" from which the Nazis were driven out late in January. Before fleeing the frustrated, outraged Germans killed 994 civilians. Five hundred and seven of these were shot. At the village of Mikulinogorodische the Germans first tried to gas the inmates of an asylum. Then they had them out in batches of eight or ten to be shot. One hundred and fifty-three civilians died either by hanging or torture, or were driven out of their homes in 40 degrees below zero to freeze to death. Out of 32,000 people living in this former contented farming district 25,000 are supposed not to be alive. A thousand that the Germans are known to have killed leaves 6,000 still unaccounted for. Of these, 1,500 are from Lotoshino itself.

## GALLOWS AS A LANDMARK.

In the ruins of Lotoshino I talked with some civilians now living like rodents in the holes under the ruins of their former homes. Unlike its surrounding wooden villages which are characteristically Russian and still made up of one-storey dwellings of unpainted logs, chiefly along one street, Lotoshino must have been almost a farming metropolis like an English market town. A tall gallows holding five dangling wire ropes with grimy nooses to-day dominated the Lotoshino landscape. Entering a dug-out made from beams thrown across the cellar of a former headquarters of the State farm, I asked a woman who lived in this building whether she had watched the hangings.

"Oh yes!" she replied, clutching her hands. "I was afraid to look—but I looked. They had to hang one man three times".

"Tatiana Peskovatzkaya" I asked. "Why did they hang her?"

"I do not know" she said. "Probably she was afraid of the Germans. She might have run. That makes them suspicious. You must not run from the Germans. They took her and hanged her. As she stood on the board (they place the victim on a board between two barrels and then kick the board away) she tried to tell the Germans that she wasn't a 'partisan'. They said she was. She explained that she was a mother and had just sent her child away with the nurse. As a doctor she had remained to look after our people. But they kicked the board. They told us we could take her clothes off her if we needed them, but, of course, nobody did. She hung there for a month".

## 17-YEAR-OLD BOY HANGED.

On another gallows erected from a telegraph pole at the main cross-roads of Lotoshino the Germans hanged a 17-year-old boy. "Why ?" I asked.

"Oh ! Somehow he managed to get something to drink and acted queerly, and so the Germans hanged him.

"The man whom the Germans had to hang thrice because the noose itself broke was a worker in a Lotoshino spirit factory who had insulted its foreman. The workman was a traitor, a Russian named Mark Borisovitch Greenstein, the factory's former technical head, whom the Germans put in as manager—and Greenstein fled with the Germans".

Some of these hangings occurred early in the German occupation in November and December leading to the theory that they intended to terrorise the civilian population—as corpses were deliberately left dangling. But the hanging of the woman doctor and the boy was sheer savagery, as the Germans in Lotoshino already knew that they had been driven back from Moscow and must flee. Thirteen people were burnt alive. Five of these were from the village of Vlasovo, men ranging from 55 years of age to 71. They were tied to trees and shot—but not mortally. Then, wounded, they were thrown back into the flames of their houses. Why ? Because two German officers had been found dead before their houses. They had been killed in a desperate night sortie by Russian army soldiers. But the Germans declared that these old men were " partisans."

## BROWN-HAIRED VALENTIN.

I have seen and heard enough of atrocity stories in various parts of the world to be sceptical but nobody could doubt little Valentin Bychkov, of the village of Maleyevo. Valentin, brown-eyed and mop-haired, proudly told us how the Germans made him prisoner, including him in a sweep they made for men in his village. He was locked in a barn. He and two other boys considered too small to be useful were told to return to their villages by the Germans, but Valentin ran away to Shapkovo, where I saw him living on a bin of frozen potatoes and hiding for a month. Then Valentin began to weep quietly.

I noticed that, staring at the holy icons inside this small cosy room of a log house in Shapkovo, the gentle-fleeced bearded head of collective farms was also weeping. Three burly tough "partisans" who escorted me there were biting their lips. We did not press little Valentin to tell how his mother and sister had been led off to be shot. It was another who afterwards described their fate as part of his own terrible story. This was a staring-eyed pale man

who saw six of his family die. To understand this one must realise that, when the Germans enter a village, they often drive out all its inhabitants into the bitter snows—usually removing their boots and warm coats first. But able-bodied men are often retained as slave labour.

### DRIVEN OUT INTO THE NIGHT.

Vassil Tupizn, also from Maleyevo, told us how the Germans ravaged the village and then beat the men and made them work. When Tupizn wanted to eat his daily three frozen potatoes at sunset the Germans began to beat him and his whole family with sticks and drove them into the night. The father was 74 and the blind mother 71. In the darkness and snow of the first night five children were frozen to death including one aged three. Tupizn and his wife were each carrying a baby in their arms. The next day these died. Another son of Tupizn was frozen to death. But the end of this terrible day was when all the fleeing people were driven inside a wire enclosure where the Germans began to fire on them. The Germans used machine-guns as well as trench mortars. Tupizn saw his wife and little girl killed.

At this part the "partisans" in the room had to calm Tupizn whose eyes seemed to be seeing the unbelievable horror again. I believe Tupizn did not weep simply because he was empty—there was nothing left.

In an asylum the Germans tried to kill 500 inmates by shutting the flues of stoves heating each room so that the escaping carbon monoxide gas would suffocate the patients. When some of the less-demented inmates realised what was being done, they went frantic and smashed the double-glass windows to get air. The Germans led out 275 in batches of eight or ten and shot them in the park.

As I stood beside the "partisans" I well understood what the chairman of the Moscow region formerly told me: "If the Germans ever attempt to come back they will find not only that our army is bigger but our hate is bigger. They will find ten partisans now for every one before. I think this hate will prove to be the biggest factor in the Russian determination to give Hitler his war of extermination".

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## GERMAN WAR OF NERVES AGAINST TURKEY.

by

*S. F. Jensen.*

On Sunday, October 16, 1927, Kemal Ataturk, President of the Turkish Republic, delivered an address to the Grand National Assembly in Ankara. The President, taciturn by nature and prone to deeds rather than words,

talked for seven hours on end on six successive days, and his speech when published in book form occupied 543 pages.

This unique rhetorical performance is interesting above all because it presents an entirely new conception of Turkey's history and revolution. Deliberately Kemal Ataturk ranged the people of Turkey against the Sultan's clan of Osmanli. The wars of liberation fought by the peoples of the Balkans he viewed, not as religious wars of Christians against Mohammedans, but as revolutions against oppression by the Sultan.

## DESIRE FOR BALKAN CONFEDERATION.

The last Balkan people to revolt against the Sultanate were the Turks themselves. Nevertheless the "Father of the Turks" (that is what "Ataturk" means) was aiming at more than a national revolution. His plans were revealed by the work he did to implement the Balkan Pact, and in the treaties he concluded with Greece, Yugoslavia and Rumania. All these were preliminary stages, as President Inonu specifically declared, in a long-cherished plan of a Balkan Confederation. This specific mention was made on the conclusion of the confederation between Greece and Yugoslavia. On that occasion the Turks recalled the fact that Kemal Ataturk had given orders that the famous Hagia Sofia church, which the Sultan had turned into a mosque, was to be deconsecrated and made into a museum. This Kemal had done because he had for historical reasons turned down Constantinople as the Turkish capital, and wanted to develop the city as the brilliant metropolis of a Balkan Confederation.

It is not surprising, therefore, that Turkey welcomed with great sympathy the Greco-Yugoslav agreement, as constituting the nucleus of a future confederation. There was even talk in this connection of a Balkan Commonwealth to include 70,000,000 people, and forming like the British Commonwealth of Nations a political and economic unit.

## AXIS DISPLEASURE.

This positive attitude of Turkey towards the post-war planning of Europe caused displeasure in Berlin and Rome. A new war of nerves was at once launched against Turkey, and–it is interesting to relate–is being waged outside Turkey itself. Herr von Papen and his propagandists and rumour-mongers have declared themselves, so to speak, non-belligerents, and are leaving the conduct of this war to Goebbels and his Italian counterpart.

The first active attempt to seduce Turkey from her alliance with Great Britain was made, as we know, at the end of September, 1941. On that occasion Dr. Clodius visited Turkey with 35 German delegates, with the nitention of bringing the country beneath the economic yoke of Nazidom,

The Clodius delegation included representatives of Krupp and other big industrialists, and as they crossed the Bosphorus and boarded the express for Ankara at Hayder Pasha on Sunday, September 28, 1941, their agents circulated reports in Ankara which said: "To-morrow, Monday, will be the most critical day in the history of modern Turkey".

## BANQUETS BUT NO CHROME.

That Monday Papen conferred with M. Menemencioglu, Under-Secretary of State, and afterwards with M. Sarajoglu, the Foreign Minister. But although Clodius was given official banquets, Germany's economic envoy failed to obtain Turkish chromium, which under the Anglo-Turkish Treaty may until the beginning of 1943 be supplied only to Great Britain. The attempt to breach this treaty and seduce the Turks from their loyalty to Britain had failed.

There is no need to recapitulate the various phases in this German war of nerves. Suffice it to say that the Bulgarian frontier was several times closed, that there was talk of Bulgarian and German troop concentrations along the Thracian border, that Grand Admiral Raeder and the notorious Admiral Canaris went to Bulgaria to prepare for an invasion of Turkey from the Black Sea, etc., etc. The next phase of major importance was during Mr. Eden's talks in Moscow, when official German quarters—see message from the conservative *Svenska Dagbladet* of Stockholm dated January 22, 1942—assured foreign journalists that "Germany possesses proof that the Bosphorus and Dardanelles were surrendered to Russia at the recent Anglo-Russian negotiations. The date of the publication of these revelations depends upon developments. It is for Turkey to judge from whom she may expect an attack against her interests". Similar reports appeared, of course, in the Nazi press and the newspapers of the satellite States and occupied countries, as well as in Spain and Italy.

## TURKEY'S ANSWER.

The Turkish answer was plain beyond mistaking. On January 20 the *Son Telegraf* of Istanbul wrote: "Turkish public opinion and Turkish statesmen know very well that it is not the Soviets who threaten the territorial integrity and independence of Turkey. Any threat of this kind will come from Germany alone".

The Nazis have now changed their tune and declare that the United States, Great Britain and Russia jointly planned to drag Turkey into war. The United States have been in ill odour with Nazi Germany ever since they included Turkey in the lease-and-lend programme. The locomotives, trucks and machinery furnished to Turkey by Great Britain stick in Hitler's gizzard. Even the war of nerves could not long maintain that Russian oil tankers were entering Turkish ports to escape from Nazi attack, instead of—as was actually the case—to bring fuel needed by the Turks for their machinery. According

to Berlin, General Auchinleck took over command in the Middle East in order to overrun Turkey. But Turkey knows that it is precisely the presence of Auchinleck's forces in Iran, Iraq and Syria which precludes all idea of a German *blitzkrieg*.

Berlin knows that Turkey will remain neutral as long as she is not attacked. Why then all this war of nerves ? It is designed to undermine Turkey from within. It is still hoped that if things should go wrong in Libya the Suez Canal can be attacked through Syria and Palestine. Germany also fears that the morale and physical resistance of Turkey (whose 40 divisions are potential enemies) may have some effect upon anti-Nazi defence, and even upon Bulgaria, whose King and Government are Nazi tools, but whose people are strongly averse to being drawn into war against Russia. That is the reason for the new war of nerves against a country which will have no truck with the "New Order".

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# CONTROL OVER HARBOUR AND SEA. TWO DIFFERENT THINGS. PRINCIPLES OF NAVAL STRATEGY. WHY JAPANESE PLANS MUST CRASH.

by

*H. C. Ferraby.*

"People often say", Admiral Mahan wrote, "that such an island or harbour will give control over such a body of water. It is an utter, deplorable and ruinous mistake".

It was a mistake into which Field-Marshal Goering fell when Germany overran the whole northern coast of France and obtained ports and harbours along the English Channel. He declared then to the whole world that thenceforward Britain's main outlet to the sea was controlled by Germany.

That was 20 months ago. Throughout those 20 months Britain's main outlet to the sea has been used constantly by convoys of merchant ships and comparatively little loss has been inflicted on them.

Now look at the other side of the English Channel. There Britain retained possession of her great naval bases of Devonport, Portsmouth and Chatham. But those great naval bases, like any other port or island, did not control the Channel and were unable by themselves to prevent German ships from escaping from Brest and reaching Germany. It is only the ships moving out of ports and islands that control sea movement.

## LESSON FOR JAPAN

This is fundamental in naval strategy and the escape of the *Scharnhorst* and her companions serves to show us that, however spectacular may be Japanese conquests of territory in the ABDA zone, they are not by themselves capable of giving to the Japanese Naval Staff that continued freedom of movement which is essential for the maintenance of conquests. Singapore by itself cannot affect the movement of a single British convoy in the Indian Ocean. Ports on the Straits of Macassar cannot by themselves prevent the assembling of a big American battlefleet at whatever point in the South Pacific may have been selected as the strategical centre of operations for the United Navies.

Only superior sea power could do either of those things. It is only the temporary and local superiority of the Japanese naval forces which have enabled their armies to reach ports. In point of fact the whole of the spectacular operations by the Japanese in the East Indies waters in the last two months has been carried out in defiance of the fundamental laws of naval strategy. The Japanese have sought to remould the principles of naval warfare. This is a very daring undertaking. These are not principles that have been laid down by British admirals alone. Nor are they based solely on the teachings of British naval history. It was an American naval officer who first made clear to the world the fundamental laws of naval warfare. And it will be the American Navy to whom will fall the opportunity of demonstrating the bravado of the Japanese in challenging the teachings of history.

## AMERICAN NAVY STRONGER

The American Navy is stronger numerically than the Japanese, and stronger not merely at the present moment but potentially for the next two years. The Secretary of the United States Navy recently told us that there are 17 new battleships, 11 aircraft-carriers, 54 cruisers and 192 destroyers building, many of which are in an advanced stage and all of which are being pushed on ahead of schedule. This is a warship-building programme that is far beyond the capacity of Japanese yards. It is, indeed, more than the existing strength of the United States Fleet and even that is numerically superior to the Japanese forces. To take battleships alone—and they are the final and determining elements in sea warfare—the United States Pacific Fleet has about 12 against eight that are available in Japan. Moreover her many expeditions in the South China Sea have already resulted in a serious weakening of Japan's naval resources. Official American and Dutch bulletins have recorded the sinking or damaging of some 50 Japanese cruisers, destroyers and submarines. As she started the war with a total of 250 warships in her fleet, her available strength is already reduced by one-fifth. Even ships that were damaged cannot be put back into the fighting line with any great speed, because they were in action 2,000 or 3,000 miles away from their nearest dockyards.

## SERIOUS LOSS

That is a very serious loss of strength. It may even be said that it is disproportionate to the results achieved, because these ships have been put out of action on secondary operations and not while inflicting parallel damage on their opponents' naval forces. The loss of those ships which have been sunk and the temporary loss of those damaged has not brought Japan anywhere nearer to making permanent her present temporary command of the sea in the South-west Pacific. Singapore, Balik Papan, Pontianak and Amboina are fixed points, whereas sea power is mobile. And the conquest of those fixed points could only be decisive in Japan's favour if she had sufficient mobile forces to ensure up to the end of the war the control of the seas in which they lie.

That is why students of naval warfare and leading statesmen of the United Nations have been talking recently of the gathering of the forces of the United Navies and of the influence that that gathering will have upon future operations.

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# THREE PHASES OF U-BOAT WARFARE.

by

*Wing-Commander L. V. Fraser.*

The Battle of the Atlantic is the only major struggle of the war which continues to be fought in consistent and deliberate secrecy. In a recent speech in a House of Commons debate on the progress of the war Mr. Winston Churchill stated that there was a serious increase in shipping losses during the last two months. While that reference by the Prime Minister covers the Battle of the Atlantic, it covers also the seas of the whole world and the period since the entry of Japan.

There have been three distinct phases during the past year. In the first period Hitler made his front as wide as possible. He scattered his U-boats all over the Atlantic and made attacks on single ships and convoys wherever they could be contacted. The attacks developed to a crescendo in midsummer and were countered by increased activity on the part of the Navy and the Coastal Command. **The graph of attacks on U-boats showed substantial rise. Inevitably Nazi pressure was relaxed.** The crews went home to refit. Damage had to be repaired. The pace slowed up and for several weeks U-boat activity was at low ebb. But there were indications that Hitler was preparing another big underwater offensive.

## PACKS HUNT IN FORCE.

It broke in late summer. Packs of U-boats hunted in force, seeking convoys and single ships, lurking where they hoped ships would come, waiting to be summoned to chase by long-range Focke-wulf Condors which scouted far over the ocean for likely victims. The Navy was ready for the challenge and the Coastal Command was at its side in greater strength than ever before. New squadrons were formed and existing squadrons augmented. New types of aircraft were in operation including the American-built Liberators which with Hudsons and Catalinas make up a considerable proportion of the Coastal Command's strength. **Aircraft's striking power had become more lethal, for they now carried depth charges as well as bombs.**

The number of submarines attacked and destroyed during this phase will probably not be disclosed until after the war but it was a struggle of considerable magnitude in which large numbers of flying-boats and land aircraft were employed day and night. Each of those aircraft had its own separate task—either to provide air escort to shipping or hunt and attack a suspected U-boat. Many attacks were made—some by aircraft alone, others jointly by the Coastal Command and Navy. There are many instances of aircraft sighting a U-boat, attacking as it dived and then summoning the Navy to finish the job.

## FIVE-WEEK HIGH-PRESSURE BATTLE.

For five weeks a high-pressure battle went on. There was no rest for the flying crews of the Coastal Command, for the operations room personnel who plotted the hourly progress of the struggle on charts and maps, or for the ground staffs who did herculean work servicing the aircraft after each flight and getting them ready in record time for the next task.

Then the pace slackened. The combined opposition of the **Navy and the R. A. F. was taking a toll which Hitler could not afford. The small measure of success which his blitz tactics brought him was more than offset by their cost.** He retired temporarily once again. It was for a short spell only.

In his last speech Hitler promised intensified U-boat warfare and now he is trying to redeem his undertaking to the German people. Another phase—the third—is in full tide.

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# CHINA CARRIES ON.
# SECRET OF HER RESISTANCE.
# UNITY AND WILLINGNESS TO SUFFER.
# FEATURES OF STRATEGY.

## RESURGENT CHINA.

**"China"—how much the word conveys to-day! China united, China resurgent, China a fighting ally! Seldom in the world's history has a nation seemed so weak**

**and proved so strong; seemed so much on the verge of extinction and proved so much alive and kicking.**

In January, 1941, Prince Konoye, then Premier of Japan, speaking before the Japanese Diet in the most remarkable speech that even the Japanese Diet has ever listened to, his voice shaking and choking with emotion, and tears wet upon his cheeks, said: "This is the fifth year since the outbreak of the China conflict, and yet there is no sign of a solution of the incident. This is beyond the responsibility of the fighting services or that of any other person. It is entirely my own responsibility. Billions of yen have been spent from the State treasury and thousands of officers and men have been sacrificed on the continent in the China incident, for which I must apologise to the Emperor and to the people at large." At these words tears welled up in the eyes of all Cabinet members present.

## CHINA FIGHTS ON.

Since this happened another year has passed and, if the present Japanese Ministers could weep, they would have sufficient reason for doing so. **For still China is unbeaten; untrammelled by fear, undeterred by suffering, unshaken by reverses, China carries on. China carries on, scoffing at "peace" offers, laughing at misfortunes, believing in victory.**

What is it that has enabled China to put up such a long fight, such a glorious fight, against a nation that has a giant's strength and does not hesitate to use it like a giant?

## A SPIRITUAL TOUR DE FORCE.

The Chinese record in this war is nothing short of a spiritual *tour de force,* with all the mechanical advantages on the enemy side. The Chinese have held out because they have adopted a correct, consistent strategy. The carryingout of that strategy has depended on several factors, failing any of which China might have been defeated. The difficulties of the Chinese achievement can be appreciated only by remembering wherein China might have failed but did not fail.

## CHINA'S STRATEGY.

First, complete unity among the army leaders was necessary. Desertion by a few important generals might have meant disaster.

Secondly, no country could hold out for four and half years without the wholehearted support of the people. The Chinese strategy of abandoning the coast and opening up the interior as a material base for resistance involved the abandoning of their homes by the people on the coast, and if they had grumbled, if their morale had cracked, the army's power of resistance might have suffered.

Thirdly, a paper strategy would have been useless if it were not resolutely carried through by a strong and bold leadership through successive crises.

And what about the soldiers? What strategical plan could have succeeded if the soldiers could not fight?

And remember communications. Remember how large a part the communication and supply system is playing in Libya to-day.

The sixth factor accounts rather for Japan's failure than China's success and concerns the occupied areas. The Japanese failed miserably to conciliate the local populations in the occupied areas. **They failed because of their limitless greed and corruption, racketeering, the narcotic trade, extortions, robbery, plunder, sheer cruelty and inconsideration for the people working with and under them.** The result is that Japan has achieved the absolute minimum politically of what can be expected of any military occupants; the political implementing of her military conquests is literally zero. But this also shows that the inner strength of the Chinese people lies in the people themselves. The Chinese have always been individualists, and have always governed or adjusted themselves in times of chaos and general disruption. The whittling down of actual Japanese occupation (in April, 1941, only ten or twelve per cent of China proper was said to be within the zone of Japanese occupation) to the absolute minimum is the effect of the combined will of the people themselves not to be governed by the invader. In the most trying circumstances they have shifted and they have survived. Even the burning of villages by the enemy as reprisal for guerilla attacks has failed to make the Chinese peasant throw up the sponge but has only increased the number of homeless guerillas. Thus the Chinese people hit back–and hit back hard. **This spirit no amount of Japanese bombs can kill; this spirit no amount of tribulation at home can extinguish. Optimistic in the face of many set-backs, ignoring their losses, inflicting losses on the enemy whenever they can, they baffle and enrage him.**

## ALLIES TO THE RESCUE.

All this was even when the help of the democracies was doubtful. To-day the democracies are reacting strongly to the Chinese offer of "all we are and all we have" and a steady stream of practical help is flowing to the Chinese. No wonder, then, that they are heartened more than ever and have confidence more than ever in victory. That victory may not be yet; hard times may still lie ahead; sufferings may be still have to be undergone and seeming defeats met. **But the end cannot be in doubt; victory may recede but not escape. And what difference can a year or two more or less make when the issues at stake are so large?**

# PROGRAMME OF LECTURES

OF THE

## Pudukkottai State War Information Bureau.

### LECTURE LXXXVII—(*Batch 4*).

**1942—**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| March | ... 21, Saturday ... | Town Hall | ... | 6.30 p. m. |
| | 22, Sunday ... | Tiruvappur | ... | 5.30 p. m. |
| | | Karaiyur | ... | 6.00 p. m. |
| | | Idaiyattur | ... | 6.30 p. m. |
| | 23, Monday ... | Konnaiyur | ... | 6.00 p. m. |
| | | Melavegupatti | ... | 6.30 p. m. |
| | 24, Tuesday ... | Vadavalam | ... | 6.00 p. m. |
| | | Sammattividuthi | ... | 6.30 p. m. |
| | 25, Wednesday | Andakkulam | ... | 6.00 p. m. |
| | | Killanur | ... | 6.30 p. m. |
| | 27, Friday ... | Nartamalai | ... | 6.00 p. m. |
| | | Uppiliyakkudi | ... | 6.30 p. m. |

### LECTURE LXXXVIII—(*Batch 5*).

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 28, Saturday ... | Town Hall | ... | 6.30 p. m. |
| | 29, Sunday ... | Tiruvarangulam | ... | 6.00 p. m. |
| | | Vamban | ... | 6.30 p. m. |
| | 30, Monday ... | Kolavoipatti | ... | 6.00 p. m. |
| | | Kilaiyur (South) | ... | 6.30 p. m. |
| | 31, Tuesday ... | Pallivasal | ... | 6.00 p. m. |
| | | Pillamangalam | ... | 6.30 p. m. |
| April | ... 1, Wednesday | Puliyur | ... | 6.00 p. m. |
| | | Kannangudi | ... | 6.30 p. m. |
| | 2, Thursday ... | Vellanur | ... | 6.00 p. m. |
| | | Sembattoor | ... | 6.30 p. m. |
| | 3, Friday ... | Adanur | ... | 6.00 p. m. |
| | | Aramanaippatti | ... | 6.30 p. m. |

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